THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has not received any such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Evasion on customs duty by M/s. Reliance Industries Limited

1667. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued show cause notice to M/s. Reliance Industries Limited for alleged evasion of customs duty to the tune of Rs. 200 crore;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain other irregularities have been noticed by Customs authorities regarding under valuation of PTA plant by over $100 million;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government have asked M/s. Reliance Industries Limited to close down their paraxylene plant?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The Collector of Customs, Bombay has issued a Show Cause Notice to M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. on 11-5-1990 for alleged evasion of customs duty to the tune of Rs. 174.03 crores.

(b) and (c) The other irregularities alleged, in brief are, that the PTA plant and paraxylene plant imported by M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. are of capacities 1,84,000 MTA and 3,94,270 MTA respectively as against the licensed capacity of 75,000 and 51,000 MTA respectively and that the import of PTA and paraxylene plants are not covered by the import license.

(d) No, Sir.

Agreement with Soviet Union on Rouble Profits

1668. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Soviet Union has gone back on its agreement on repatriation of Rouble profits from joint ventures;

(b) whether any talks have been held with the Soviet Union in this regard; and

(c) if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI)-, (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In February 1990, discussions were held with a Soviet official delegation on ways and means of repatriation of Rouble profits of Indo-Soviet joint ventures in the USSR. At the end of those discussions an understanding was reached in respect of repatriation of Rouble profits of such joint ventures. Further discussions are required to identify the categories of joint ventures to which this understanding is to apply.

Import of pig iron by SAIL

1669. SHRI J. P. JAVALI. WiU the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to meet the shortage, 2,00,000 tonnes of pig iron was permitted to be imported through the Steel Authority of India Ltd. during 1989-90; and

(b) what was the allotment of pig iron by SAIL to Karnataka State in 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) SAIL had supplied 25,200 tonnes of pig iron during 1989 through its branches in Karnataka.